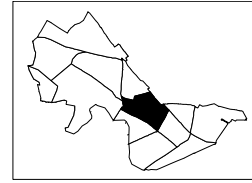


NEIGHBORHOOD 6

MID-CAMBRIDGE



BOUNDARIES: bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street.

POPULATION: 13,285 residents
5,989 households

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:
\$37,075

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, JAN-JUNE 00 - 04

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	31	43	56	29	34
Street Robbery	8	5	5	7	7
Auto Theft	18	24	14	19	16
Larceny from MVs	33	52	55	33	48
Malicious Destruction	43	52	64	40	34
Drug Incidents	8	8	5	3	4

2004 FIRST HALF IN REVIEW

• **Larceny from motor vehicles** was one of the most commonly reported crimes in Mid-Cambridge. The total is up dramatically from the first quarter of the year (38 of the 48 incidents took place between April and June). Thirty-five percent of the cars targeted had their windows broken to gain entry; 12% of the cars had left their doors unlocked. • Over half of the **housebreaks** occurred on weekdays between 10am and 4pm., presumably the times when apartments are unoccupied. Harvard, Cambridge and Lee Streets each were locations of multiple breaks over the first six months of the year. • The majority of the **malicious destruction** incidents (82%) involved motor vehicle damage such as smashed windows, slashed tires or keyed paint. • Of the 16 **auto thefts** in the first 6 months of the year, only 5 were reported in the second quarter; 3 of those were thefts of Acura Integras which have since been recovered. • Two **drug incidents** were arrests for marijuana possession; two were arrests for possession of heroin and a forged needle exchange card.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	226	1	102	1	1
Street Robbery	49	3	18	5	6
Auto Theft	147	4	65	5	5
Larceny from MVs	198	1	106	1	2
Malicious Destruction	149	1	106	5	5

*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners.

Because of the enormous number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher than average rate for several crimes. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential Burglary** is naturally highest in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut in half since the 1980s, it still remains a serious problem. The largest clusters appear on Harvard Street between Prospect and Lee Streets, on Broadway between Lee and Ellery Streets, around the Massachusetts Avenue/Hancock Street intersection, on the lower half of Trowbridge Street, and on Lee Street. Mid-Cambridge also ranks high in **larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crimes of **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**. The Cambridge Police Department strives to reduce both crimes through preventive patrol efforts, "Park and Walks," and priority investigation.
- **Street robbery** is surprisingly low in Mid-Cambridge given its population. Most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.

